



FEMA

CDP FOCUS

CDP Superintendent's Message

Having just completed a cross country whirlwind set of visits I had the privilege to sit down and talk with some of our larger training partners where the CDP, working in a real partnership with these jurisdictions, is having a huge impact in preparing responders. For example, I had the pleasure of visiting the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy and learning how various smaller jurisdictions around the Chicago area have joined together to make training, including CDP mentored training, available to their member organizations in a cost effective manner.



Todd Jones, CDP Superintendent

It was really exciting to see how their governance structure cross the traditional department cultural boundaries bringing fire, police, public works, and city administrators together to collaboratively manage the training programs being delivered in their partnership.

I also visited the New York City Police Academy and saw how this partnership is providing new law enforcement cadets access to CDP training. It was clear in my conversation with the Assistant Chief that his view of the importance of CDP's role in the overall training delivered was a crucial one. That same message was given by the commanding officer of the Los Angeles Police Department's Training Division as well as the Battalion Chief of the Los Angeles Fire Department's Homeland Security Division.

These examples point to the importance of the CDP operational value of "collaboration" where we partner to share best practices and outstanding ideas. In the current fiscal climate where budgets are under increasing pressure at all levels; federal, state and local, the efficiencies that arise out of genuine collaboration leverages limited dollars in order to accomplish the most good for as many as possible. These innovative, collaboratively executed, responder focused partnerships are providing CDP an excellent opportunity to accomplish our mission.

I would be remiss if I did not also highlight the important work being accomplished in the field by the CDP Regional Managers and their very limited staffs. It was remarkably obvious that these individuals have built very solid relationships with their customers and are an important element to the effectiveness of our partnerships. These professionals, each who have distinguished themselves as seasoned mastery holders in their respective fields, bring solutions to the vexing challenges facing these jurisdictions and follow up with the training that advances the preparedness capability of the departments who are their customers.

It is clear these programs make a difference and are hugely important to the men and women on the front lines of preparedness and response. What an energizing set of visits that reaffirms what CDP and each of you are doing does make a difference and is highly valued by our customers. Thank you for making collaboration work!

Hazardous Materials Course Focus on WMD Attack and Response

The Hazardous Materials Technician (HT) for CBRNE Incidents course provides students an overview of the international and domestic threats with a spotlight on identification and decontamination of biological or chemical hazards. The course, taught at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Ala., also includes hazardous materials technical training for operating in an all-hazards environment and preservation of crime scene evidence. The HT course presents training that incorporates advanced



A small amount of nerve agent is placed on a cold surface prior to the entry of Hazardous Materials Technician (HT) students at the CDP. The HT course presents training that incorporates advanced competencies, technology, and tactics that focus on the specific threats associated with chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive material. Working with nerve agents GB (Sarin) and VX the students respond to a scenario to rescue and protect citizens, preserve evidence, and locate and identify the toxic substance.

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CDP Celebrates Graduation of 100,000th Resident Student



Jennifer Goodman shakes hands with CDP Superintendent Todd Jones during a ceremony Oct. 26th, recognizing her as the 100,000th resident course graduate. Andy Mitchell (right), assistant administrator, National Training and Education, Protection and National Preparedness, FEMA, was the guest speaker for the event.

The CDP celebrated its 100,000th resident course graduate Oct. 26, 2010, marking a milestone that seemed distant in 1998. When the CDP opened its doors in Anniston, Ala. twelve years ago, it trained just under 500 emergency responders the first year.

"Reaching this milestone is a great accomplishment," said Andy Mitchell, FEMAs assistant administrator, National Training and Education, Protection and National Preparedness. "Over the past 12 years we have created a residential training program which has surpassed

all expectations. Reaching a large number like this is a testament to the first response community and their commitment to preparedness, especially during a mass casualty event. It also says a lot about the staff and faculty here who consistently provide world-class training opportunities for the nation's first responders."

Jennifer Goodman, a first responder from McMinnville, Ore., was identified as the

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Who We Are

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) is the only Congressionally-chartered Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) training center for civilians. The CDP specializes in providing resident and non-resident advanced hands-on, all-hazards training for America's state, local, and tribal emergency responders in their mission to prevent, deter, respond to, and recover from terrorist acts and other catastrophic events, especially those involving WMD or hazardous materials. The CDP's cutting-edge training incorporates the nation's only toxic chemical agent training facility for civilian responders and a fully scoped hospital used for training mass casualty incident management for healthcare and public health professionals. When appropriate, the CDP can train other federal government, foreign, and private responders on a reimbursable basis. Training at the CDP is fully funded by DHS. The CDP's training programs offer a selection of more than 50 courses, a large on-site billeting and dining capacity, and a fully certified, multi-disciplined instructional staff with an average of 19 years of experience in their respective emergency response fields. Newsletter articles are written by CDP External Affairs staff unless otherwise noted. Contents of the CDP Focus do not imply endorsement by the CDP, NTED, FEMA, DHS or the Federal Government. Items appearing in this newsletter are considered of potential interest to CDP staff and responder students. Content suggestions should be directed to the External Affairs Office at 256-847-2212. Learn more about the CDP at <http://cdp.dhs.gov>. ~

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N P I A N A D N J L W N Y A P N
D R N S R N C J K T H P Z R D K
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Action	Command	FEMA	Incident	Preparedness	Team
Chemical	Domestic	Hazard	Noble	Radiological	Technical
COBRA	Explosive	ICS	Nuclear	Response	Training

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(Right) Jennifer McCullars, an employee of STEM International, Inc., a support contractor for the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), shares training information and CDP facts with a potential responder student at the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce "Business 2 Business Expo 2010."

The CDP was one of more than 100 exhibitors participating in the outreach effort that showcased opportunities that are available throughout Calhoun County. Opportunities included medical, government, financial institutions, retail, many area restaurants and other service-oriented organizations.

This marked the 26th Business Expo, which enables business organizations to network in the community.

This year's event was the largest gathering of working professionals in the area, and proved to be a great opportunity for organizations to highlight their services to potential customers and job seekers.

Supporting the Troops



Employees of Beacon and Associates, a support contractor for McClellan's Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP), display a large collection of toiletries and other comfort items slated for delivery to U.S. Armed Forces assigned to remote locations in Afghanistan.

(Pictured from left to right) Beacon and Associates' employees Jessica Joiner, Stephanie Coley, Melissa Remington, and April Martin gathered the more than 3,000 items donated by CDP employees and outside volunteers. A total of 33 boxes weighing approximately 400 pounds were sent to the troops overseas.

"One of our employees overheard a local news program reporting about the need for personal items to our troops serving overseas," said Ken Saunders, Beacon and Associates project manager. "She did her research and was able to gather information based on units who need assistance most. The rest is history--or in the mail as they say."

"The CDP supports the nation's first responders on a daily basis. This is a small gesture for our troops overseas, especially during the holidays when it is probably needed most."

Among the list of goodies were 1,000 tubes of toothpaste, 300 toothbrushes, as well as floss and mouthwash provided by a local dentist. The project started in mid August and ended late October to ensure shipping dates.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
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competencies, technology, and tactics that focus on the specific threats associated with chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive material.

"After attending the course I have a lot more confidence in the [personal protective equipment (PPE)] I wear," said Kevin Burns, a member of his hospital's decontamination team in Fort Worth, Texas. "There's also a lot of information about Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). I feel that I have a better awareness about the threats and how to protect the public, stay prepared, and respond if something happens."

"Responders should expect to walk away with their current set of skills enhanced," said Rob Low, CDP course manager of hazardous materials programs. "This course is designed for someone with a basic level of hazmat knowledge. We send them away with an understanding of technician level operations."

The course extends three days and quickly moves the students from the classroom to hands-on experience—responding to a potential crime scene involving hazardous substances. These drills allow students to practice and reinforce their new skills and knowledge in a realistic training environment. The exercise areas are enhanced with realistic props, loud and confusing noise, alarms, and theatrical smoke. The responders enter with just the assistance of their response equipment and a handheld flashlight. Through training such as the HT course, the CDP, plays a leading role in preparing cities and local response forces to protect, prevent, deter, and respond to acts of terrorism, major accidents involving hazardous or toxic materials, or mass casualty events.

"The emergency response community in the United States needs to avoid complacency and continue to prepare for a wide range of potential terrorist attacks that will likely include chemical, biological, radiological, or explosive material," said Rick Dickson, assistant director for training delivery. "Many independent reports highlight the potential for attacks based on threat assessments, and in many cases specify a reality that the potential use of weapons of mass destruction is still ever present."

"Training is a critical element of preparedness, and the center's fully funded training opportunities for state, tribal, and local emergency responders, are designed to prepare individuals and teams for what may be reality."

"You get just enough classroom and then you are in the field doing it real-world," said David Luster an incident responder with Oregon's state highway department. "I am very confident. We performed to a standard; not taking advantage of this funded training is no one's fault but your own."

The CDP is operated by the federal government and provides civilian training in Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) events. The CDP fully funds all training—including airfare, lodging and meals.

The HT course culminates at the Chemical, Ordnance, Biological, and Radiological (COBRA) training facility--the only training site of its kind for civilian emergency responders. Working with nerve agents GB (Sarin) and VX the students continue the scenario to rescue and protect citizens, preserve evidence, and locate and identify the toxic substance.

"I definitely think that the fact we worked with a toxic agent stepped it up a notch compared to the standard drills responders perform," said Catherine Brennan, a university chemical hygiene officer from Chapel Hill, N.C. "Working in a room with real nerve agent was a great experience. I feel more confident and prepared."

"Our objective is to make sure the student leaves here with a solid understanding of hazardous materials and WMD," said Butch Tolbert, WMD hazardous materials instructor. "HT is a challenging course. The responders can take these challenges and incorporate their past experience to develop a positive response if it is needed in their home jurisdictions."



First responders attending the Hazardous Materials Technician (HT) course at the CDP respond to a simulated incident involving a toxic substance. The responder's key mission is to save lives and decontaminate survivors before making further entry. The course extends three days and quickly moves the students from the classroom to hands-on experience—responding to a potential crime scene involving hazardous substances. These drills allow students to practice and reinforce their new skills and knowledge in a realistic training environment.

100,000th GRADUATE
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100,000th resident course graduate. Goodman serves as a lead emergency department technician at Providence St. Vincent's Medical Center in Portland and trains responders

in disaster preparedness and emergency communications.

"I'm not the one who should be honored here today," she said just before her fifth course completion. "All the staff and people before, who made this training available should be honored. These are excellent programs and I am happy to be part of it. If we had a mass casualty incident, whether related to natural events or terrorist, just knowing how to respond in a given situation makes a difference. "The CDP training shows us how to respond and take care of our communities, our neighbors, and our families. The training is available and hopefully we'll all respond appropriately if there is a small or large scale event by taking advantage of the CDP courses."

The CDP resident training provides very specialized response skills for Weapons of Mass Destruction, disasters, and other mass-casualty events. The resident training is enhanced through the unique training venues located on the campus. The CDP conducts eight to ten resident classes per week; with about 30-60 students per course; training approximately 12,000 in residence annually.



Jennifer Goodman, a first responder from McMinnville, Ore., was identified as the 100,000th resident course graduate. (Above) She answers reporters questions following the ceremony.



ROUNDS DOWN RANGE

Security officers from Wackenhut Services Incorporated (WSI) recently completed semi-annual weapons qualification.

The shooters fire a total of 50 rounds—each worth two points—from the 25, 15, 7, and 5-yard lines. The WSI security officers qualify every six months with a GLOCK .40 caliber weapon.

Qualifying isn't your routine day at the local firing range. It requires determination, concentration, and speed. Each qualifying officer must meet strict timelines and fire specific amounts of rounds from each firing point.

Wackenhut's CDP mission is to protect CDP property, and its training sites.

These security officers are the top shooters for the first part of Fiscal Year 2011.



Gregory Dempsey	100
Richard Gaines	98
John Knight	98
Albert Lassiter	98





Throw Down 2010

Chili Champions

Federal Staff:

- 1st Place – Mickey Pinkston
- 2nd Place – Denis Campeau
- 3rd Place – Scott Johnston
- (3rd consecutive third place finish)

Beacon:

- 1st Place – Rosemary Peak
- 2nd Place – Bernadette Hays

HME/SEI:

- 1st Place – Melissa Boyer

VIP:

- 1st Place – Robert Burdette
- 2nd Place – Thomas Wilczek

Judges Choice:

- Best of Show – Mickey Pinkston
- 2nd Place – Melissa Boyer
- 3rd Place – Robert Burdette

People's Choice:

Shannon Arledge

Corn Bread Champions

Federal Staff:

- 1st Place – Mickey Pinkston
- 2nd Place – Shannon Arledge
- 3rd Place – JoAnn McKnight

Beacon:

- 1st Place – Wendell Day
- 2nd Place – Tara Anderson

HGS/IEM:

- 1st Place – Jamee Lutz

Sodexo:

- 1st Place – Jim Kelley

Judges Choice:

- Best of Show – Jamee Lutz
- 2nd Place – Jim Kelley
- 3rd Place – Mickey Pinkston

People's Choice:

Mickey Pinkston





Candy Land Christmas

CDP Employee Association Participates in Anniston Christmas Parade



Center for Domestic Preparedness Christmas Float Rises in Soggy Weather

Members of the Center for Domestic Preparedness Employee Association (CDPEA) braved a soggy evening to march in the annual Anniston, Ala. City Christmas Parade on Dec. 17. The Employee Association's Candy Land Christmas float won 1st place out of approximately 50 floats in the annual Christmas procession through downtown Anniston.

Members of the CDP Employee Association dedicated their own time and materials to construct the float and march in the parade. It took more than 18 hours, working in the evenings, to build the float, which featured a giant Candy Land game board, candy house, more than 5,000 napkins, and giant candy canes and lollipops.

"CDP federal employees are part of the Anniston community," said Mike King, CDP deputy superintendent. "This was a great chance for the CDP Employee Association to show its support of the local community, especially during the holiday season."





CDP Employee Association Golf Tournament



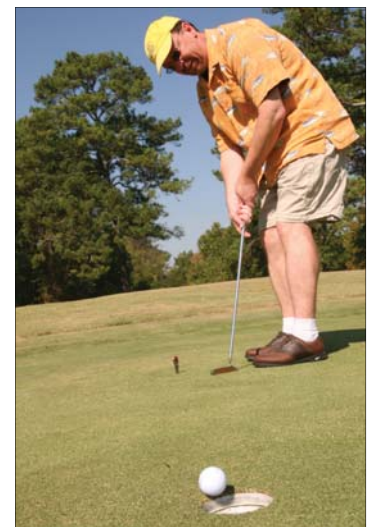
HIGH SCORES

First (59)
Nick Pollard
Greg Heath
Josh Poole
Brenton Monroe

Second (60)
Bob Baker
Danny Waddell
Giles Crider
Sam Bass

Third (63)
Clay Calkins
Dee Loucks
Tyler Calkins
Michael Ferguson

Fourth (65)
Rick Dickson
Bubba Munn
Greg Johnson
Jordan Pisacrita





Center for Domestic Preparedness Employee Association Provides Needed Food

The Center for Domestic Preparedness Employee Association (CDPEA) donated more than \$500 worth of food to All Saints Interfaith, Center of Concern, to help feed needy families in the Anniston community. CDP employees donated several hundred non-perishable food items, including canned vegetables, pie filling, dry goods, and baby food.

The CDP Employee Association food drive, conducted from November through mid-December, is one of three food drives employees participate in each year. The collected food provides direct aid to the poor, with 100 percent of the donations going directly back to the community, according to sister Jane O'Connor, director of All Saints Interfaith.

"Our waiting room is always full," O'Connor said. "We have a greater need this time of year, especially now, when more people are out of work. We are so grateful for the organizations who give. This is direct aid to the poor, and people are referred here everyday."

"To help us help the needy is a blessing," said Robin Gladd, Center of Concern office manager. "We rely so much on our local neighbors; it is truly what keeps us going, and can be as simple as placing a box near a door. The effort is truly felt through the community."

(Pictured) Holly Robinson and Kent Davis, CDPEA members, unload one of the larger boxes containing donated food items.



CDP Donates Toys to The Salvation Army



Through a small gesture of giving, the Center for Domestic Preparedness Employee Association (CDPEA) is trying to put smiles on children's faces throughout Calhoun County this Christmas season. The CDPEA conducted a toy drive for approximately 30 days leading up to Christmas.

Donations were accepted at each CDP training site and a total of 239 new toys, including four bicycles, were donated to The Salvation Army of Calhoun and

Cleburne counties.

According to Major Darrell Kingsbury, commander and Corps officer for the counties, local Salvation Army chapters donate directly to the communities they serve and this year more than 95 percent of funding has come from donations.

"We depend on the community more and more," said Kingsbury. "These toys from the CDP make it easier to meet requirements. All the toys are perfect, and the bicycles were a great surprise. We receive many requests for bikes. This support is very important—we couldn't survive without community support."

(Pictured) Kent Davis, CDPEA member, hands over one of four bicycles to Maj. Darrell Kingsbury, Corps Officer and local commander of The Salvation Army.

Preparedness Challenge

